REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 14 and 15 have been amended to correct SEQ ID Nos. Support for the amendments can be found in the Supplemental Preliminary Amendment and Substitute Sequence Listing filed December 20, 2001.

Restriction to one of the following groups was required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

Group I: Claims 1-2, 4-5, and 17 (each in part), drawn to a method of modulating bone resorption in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a leptin or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent, antagonist, or agonist wherein the elected species comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 60% similarity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7 (now SEQ ID NO:2), classification dependent upon agent structure.

Group II: Claims 1, 3-5, and 17 (each in part), drawn to a method of modulating bone resorption in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a leptin or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent, antagonist, or agonist wherein the elected species comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 60% similarity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 8 (now SEQ ID NO: 1), classification dependent upon agent structure.

Group III: Claims 6-9 and 18, drawn to a method for inhibiting, reducing, or otherwise delaying onset of progression of bone resorption in an animal, classification dependent upon agent structure.

Group IV: Claim 10, drawn to a composition comprising a leptin having at least 60% similarity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7 (now SEQ ID NO:2), classified in class 514, subclass 2.

Group V: Claims 13-14, 16, and 19 (each in part), drawn to a method for inhibiting osteoclastogenesis in an animal said method comprising administering an effective amount of a leptin or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent, antagonist, or agonist wherein the elected species comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 60% similarity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7 (now SEQ ID NO:2), classification dependent upon agent structure.

Group VI: Claims 13, 14-16, and 19, drawn to a method for inhibiting osteoclastogenesis in an animal said method comprising administering an effective amount of a leptin or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent, antagonist, or agonist wherein the elected species comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 60% similarity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 8 (now SEQ ID NO: 1), classification dependent upon agent structure.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects Group I, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 17 drawn to a method of modulating bone resorption in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a leptin or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent,

antagonist, or agonist wherein the elected species comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 60% similarity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7 (now SEQ ID NO:2).

However, the Applicant wishes to note, that the sequence referred to as SEQ ID NO: 8 (now SEQ ID NO: 1) in Claims 3 and 15 and the instant Restriction Requirement is a nucleotide sequence. This nucleotide sequence encodes the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7 (now SEQ ID NO: 2). Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests recombining Group I and Group II (Claims 1, 3-5, and 17) as drawn to the same subject matter. In addition, Applicant reserves full rights to pursue the subject matter of Claims 6-10, 13-16, 18, and 19 in related applications.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that this amendment be entered prior to examination of this Application. If any points remain that can be resolved by telephone, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below given telephone.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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